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Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health & Sanitary Conditions

for 1948

L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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Poulton-le-Fylde
Urban District Council

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Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Ninth and Final Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1948.

I have to express my thanks to the members of the Council for their support and co-operation, and for the assistance which I have constantly received from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. G Woolley.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

L. FAY, M.D., D.P.H.
Medical officer of Health.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The area of the district is 2,410 acres, it is divided into five wards, viz. : Poulton North, Poulton East, Poulton West, Hardhorn and Carleton. It is bounded on the North side by the Urban District of Thornton-Cleveleys, on the East and South by the Parishes of Singleton and Hardhorn-with-Newton, and on the West by the County Borough of Blackpool.

The district is mainly residential, and most of the industrial population is employed by agriculture, the Imperial Chemical Industries, the British Railways and the Building Trades.

The area is supplied with good and wholesome water by the Fylde Water Board. The whole of the area is sewered on the combined system ; and is carried by gravitation to storage tanks situate on Skippool Marsh, and discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide.

Births.

Births :—Boys 61; Girls 57 ; Total 118.

The number of births registered in the district was 118, giving a birth rate of 15.4 per thousand of the population as against 15.5 per thousand for the previous year.

There were six illegitimate births, and three still births registered.

Infantile Mortality.

Five deaths under one year have been recorded during the year—giving a rate of 42 per thousand live births as against 101 for the previous year.

The rate for England and Wales during the year was 34.

Deaths.

Males . 53 Females 56. Total 109.

The number of deaths in the district was 109 after deducting deaths of persons not resident in the district, and adding deaths of residents which occurred in other districts.

Causes of Death.

	Males	Females	Total
All Causes	53	56	109
Influenza	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	2	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Syphilitic Diseases	—	—	—
Cancer	8	10	18
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	8	12	20
Heart Disease	12	12	24
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	1	4
Bronchitis	7	3	10
Pneumonia	—	—	—
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Maternal Causes	—	—	—
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Digestive Diseases other than appendicitis	1	3	4
Nephritis	—	2	2
Congenital Debility, Premature Births, etc.	2	1	3
Suicide	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents	—	1	1
Other Violence	—	—	—
All Other Causes	7	5	12
Diarrhoea under two years	1	—	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Diabetes	1	—	1
	53	56	109

This gives a crude death rate of 14.2 per thousand, compared with 12.5 in the previous year.

Tubercolosis:

The number of new cases notified during the year was eleven. eight of which were respiratory and three non-respiratory. Four deaths from Tuberculosis were recorded, three respiratory and one non-respiratory.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Table showing New Cases and Mortality during 1948—

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0–1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
1–5	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
5–10	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–
10–15	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
15–20	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
20–25	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
25–35	1	3	1	–	–	1	–	1
35–45	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–
45–55	2	–	–	–	1	1	–	–
Over 55	–	2	–	–	–	–	–	–
Totals	3	5	2	1	1	2	–	1

Cancer (Malignant Disease).

There were Eighteen deaths from Cancer during the year, giving a rate of 2.35 per thousand as against 2.24 for the previous year.

Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

Under the Diphtheria Anti-Toxin (outside London) Order of 1910, serum is supplied free for the use of the inhabitants of the District. A stock is held by the Medical Officer of Health.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Campaign against Diphtheria continues satisfactorily, as will be seen in the following table. The latest national figures show that approximately 50% of the potential child population in the country has been immunised, so it will be seen that the Poulton-le-Fylde figures compare favourably. During the last six years, practically all the immunisations have been carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the school clinic. Any parent wishing to take advantage of this protection against Diphtheria should sign the necessary consent form at the Town Hall.

The immunisations are carried out at 2-0 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. This service was transferred from the Poulton-le-Fylde U.D.C. to Lancashire County Council on July 5th 1948.,

Number of Children Immunised During January-June 1948.

	Age Group pre-school Children aged 0—4 Inclusive	Age Group School Children aged 5—14 incl.
No. Immunised 1948	56	11
Total No. Immunised	343	817
Estimated child Population	567	841
% Immunised	60.6%	97.2%
No. of Reinforcements		229

Scarlet Fever.

During the year ten cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified No inoculation has been effected with regard to Scarlet Fever. The incidence of the cases was sporadic.

Influenza.

With the exception of sporadic cases of Influenza, the district has been comparatively free during the year.

Infectious Diseases.

61 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Table of Cases of Notifiable Diseases during 1948

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	Total cases of all ages.	AGE PERIODS — YEARS												Total Deaths	HOSPITAL	
		Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65 & Over		Total cases Removed to Hospital.	Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district.
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	10	—	—	1	—	1	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Diphtheria (incl. Membranous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	24	3	2	1	2	7	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles (excl. German Measles) ...	25	—	—	—	5	5	14	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute pneumonia (primary & Influenza)	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	AGE		NOT		KNOWN		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Any other diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	61	3	2	2	8	13	27	4	—	—	1	—	—	—	8	—

Measles.

There were twenty-five cases of measles notified during the year. These were sporadic. None of the cases proved fatal.

Bacteriological Examination.

Facilities for the examination of material for suspected cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Tuberculosis, etc., are available for all medical practitioners.

Nursing.

There is a District Nursing Association and one District Nurse is employed. This service was transferred to the Lancashire County Council on July 5th, 1948.

Midwives.

There are no registered midwives in the district.

Clinic and Treatment Centres.

There are no clinic or treatment centres under the direct control of the local authority.

The Child Welfare Centre, which is held every Tuesday from 2.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m. in the Church Hall, Vicarage Road, is under the control of the County Authority. The local Education Authority also provides a School Clinic in the same premises each Friday morning.

A campaign against Venereal Disease is carried out by the County Council in co-operation with the local authority The centres for the treatment of these cases are at Victoria Hospital Blackpool, and the Royal Infirmary, Preston

Hospitals.

The local authority contributes to the Manchester Hospitals and Victoria Hospital, Blackpool, for cases for general sickness and accidents. For infectious diseases, contributions are made towards the maintenance of the Fylde Joint Hospital at Moss side Lytham, which contains 64 beds. For smallpox cases, provision is made at the Elswick Leys Hospital of the Fylde, Preston and Garstang Joint Hospital Board, of which Poulton-le-Fylde is a constituent authority. 30 Beds are provided and further accommodation is available at the Elswick Sanatorium in case of epidemic

Ambulance Facilities.

For infectious cases the Fylde Joint Hospital and the Fylde Preston and Garstang Hospital Board provide motor ambulances.

For non-infectious and accident cases a joint Ambulance Service is maintained by the Poulton-le-Fylde U.D.C. and Thornton-Cleveleys U.D.C. This provides a twenty-four-hourly service and is adequate. Co-ordination is maintained with the Blackpool and Fleetwood Services.

Cases dealt with during 1948

Conveyed to :	*Accidents*	*Illness*	*Total*
Victoria Hospital, Blackpool	9	19	28
To and from Victoria Hospital	2	3	5
Union Ifirmary, Kirkham	0	3	3
Nursing Homes	0	2	2
Own Residence	0	3	3
Rossall Hospital, Fleetwood	0	1	1
Unclassified	0	2	2
	11	33	44

Total Mileage (January-June 1948): 637.

National Assistance Act, 1948-Section 47 :-

No. of applications made during the period 5th July to 31st December, 1948, under sub-section 3—Nil.

Water Supply.

The Fylde Water Board, of which Poulton-le-Fylde is a constituent authority, provides a plentiful and excellent supply of water from their gathering grounds at Grizedale and Stocks.

Supplies to Houses.

From Public Mains				From Private Supplies	
Direct to Houses		By Means of Standpipe			
No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population	No. of Dwelling Houses	No. of Population
2301	7604	Nil	Nil	8	26

Milk Supply.

There are 39 cowkeepers registered and 9 Dairymen or Milk Purveyors. During the year the Lancashire County Council have taken samples of milk from the cattle in the district.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

The sampling of food is carried out by the County Police Authorities.

Housing Conditions.

1. **General Observations as to Housing conditions.**

Housing conditions in the district are good. 90 per cent of the houses are modern and the older property in the centre of the town is kept in a fair state of repair by the owners.

There are no back-to-back or back-to-earth houses in the District.

2. Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

(a) Extent of Shortage.

There is a definite shortage of houses in the area. 221 applications for municipal houses already filed. A scheme for building 109 houses has been approved, and construction of houses was commenced in 1946.

(b) Particulars of any housing scheme.

The Council have let contracts for the whole of the 109 houses on their present Estate, and at the end of 1948, 43 were completed.

The Council are negotiating, for a further 11½ acres of land..

(c) Information as to any important changes in population.

No important changes.

(d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.

None.

3. Overcrowding.

(a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1948 : One.

(b) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding : None.

(c) Any other particulars with respect to over crowding, e.g. causes :

From the applications for Council Houses which have been received, it would appear that in many cases overcrowding is due to newly-married couples living with their parents due to the shortage of houses to let.

4. **Fitness of Houses..**

(a) **Difficulties found in action under the Public Acts or under the Housing Acts :** None.

(b) **Special Measures taken e.g. in relation to carrying out programmes of repair :** None.

(c) **No. of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply :** None.

(d) **No. of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation :** None.

5. **Unhealthy Areas :** None.

6. **Action taken during the year regarding :—**

(1) **Clearance Areas :** None.

(2) **Improvement Areas :** None.

7. **Byelaws relating to houses, etc.**

Adequate.

Disinfection of Houses.

One terminal Disinfection has been carried out during the year. Disinfectant fluid is issued to all cases of infectious disease on request.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of Action taken during 1948.

No. of Houses found to be infested.

(*a*) Council Houses None. (*b*) Other Houses. Nil

No. of Houses disinfested.

(*a*) Council Houses None. (*b*) Other Houses. Nil

Methods employed for freeing infested Houses from Bed bugs.

Cyanide Gas.

Methods of Ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from Vermin before removal to Council Houses : Houses and furniture inspected.

Is work of disinfestation carried out by Local Authority or by a Contractor : By a Contractor.

Measures taken by way of Supervision or Education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.....None.

Summary of Report.

The birth rate shows a decrease on last year.

The crude death rate is higher than in 1947 and than the average for the past five years.

The mortality for Cancer shows an increase ; and that of Tuberculosis shows an increase on the figure for 1947.

The maternal mortality is Nil and the infant mortality is lower.

With the exception of sporadic cases of Influenza, Scarlet Fever and Measles, the area has remained healthy.

Vital Statistics, 1948.

	Total	Male	Female
Births in 1948.....	118	61	57
Deaths in 1948.....	109	53	56
Still Births in 1948	3	3	—

7,630 Population	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Per 1,000 of Population. Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death rate from Cancer	Maternal Mortality Rate Per 1,000 live Births	Per 1,000 total still & live Births	Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live Births
Mean of 5 years							
1943-47	15.6	13.2	0.22	1.97	Nil	Nil	48
1947	15.5	12.5	0.26	2.24	Nil	Nil	101
1948	15.4	14.2	0.39	2.35	Nil	Nil	42
Increase or decrease in 1948 on 5 years' average 1943-47	—0.2	+1.0	+0.17	+0.38	Nil	Nil	—6
Previous year	—0.1	+1.7	+0.13	+0.11	Nil	Nil	—59

Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

on

The Sanitary Condition

of the

District for the Year Ended 31st December, 1948

To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

Sir and Gentlemen,

I beg to present to you my eighteenth Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the district and the work done during the year ended 31st December, 1948

Area of District, 2,410 Acres; Population, 7,630.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948 according to Rate Book: 2,200.

Particulars of Sanitary Accommodation.

Privy Closets	26
Pail Closets	37
Waste Water Closets	5
Fresh Water Closets	2,622
Dry Ashpits	17
Movable Ashbins	2,228

Conversions.

		During year 1948
No. of privy closets	to fresh water closets.....	0
	to waste water closets.....	0
	to pails, etc.....	0
No. of pail closets	to fresh water closets.....	0
	to waste water closets.....	0
Number of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles....		0

Sewerage.

Regular cleansing and rodding of the sewers have been carried out. The Disposal works consist of Ferro-Concrete tanks with a capacity of six times the dry weather flow of the district served by the sewers. Before the sewage enters these tanks it passes through a screening chamber. The outfall consists of a 27 inch diameter cast iron main fitted with the necessary valves and tidal flap and the sewage is discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide. These works have been satisfactorily maintained during the year and there have been no complaints.

Scavenging.

The scavenging of the district has been done regularly The refuse is collected in a covered motor lorry and is conveyed away from the town to Skippool Marsh, where the resultant tip is under partial control.

Camping Sites.

(*a*) No of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1948.	Twenty-seven
(*b*) No. of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.	One
(*c*) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1948.	760

Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited, 212.
Defects or nuisances : No. discovered 196; No. abated 196.
No. of Notices served :—Informal 30 ; Statutory—None
Legal proceedings :—None.

Work for which Building Licences were issued, 1948.

Electricity Services	16
Re-drainage and Connections to main sewer	21
Heating Systems	4
Repairs to Brickwork	11
Repairs to Floors	10
Internal Decorations	42
New W.C. Pedestals	2
Repairs to defective water supplies	2
Repairs to Drains	1
Repairs to Roofs	20
Repairs to Doors and Windows	4
Repairs to Paths	19
New Fireplaces and Repairs to same	24
Repairs and re-building of Greenhouses	0
Alterations and Additions to Buildings	2
Exterior Painting	51
Interior Repairs to Plaster	2
Repairs to Sinks	4
New Water Supply	2
General Repairs and Reconditioning	13
	240

Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspection of Factories and Other Premises.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	0	0	0	0
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	32	42	0	0
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.)	0	0	0	0
Total	32	42	0	0

2. Defects found in Factories and Other Premises.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	0	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding (S.2)	0	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	0	0	0	0	0
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)..	0	0	0	0	0
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	0	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): (a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	0	0	0	4	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to homework)	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	4	0

Bakehouses.

Number on Register :—8. Conditions :—Good.

Common Lodging Houses.

There is one common lodging house in the district, and the accommodation is for 32. It has been regularly inspected and has been kept in a very satisfactory condition.

I am,

Sir and Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

WILFRED G. WOOLLEY,

Cert. R. San. Inst.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.